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"(c) The answer is in the negative.

"(d) In view of the answer to clause (c) the question does not arise."

* 301 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government to give relief to the repatriates from Ceylon under the Indo-Ceylon agreement?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"The Government have no proposals on hand as there is no need for them at present. They are, however, watching the situation closely and the question of giving relief to Indians returning from Ceylon as a result of the Ceylon Government's Scheme to send away temporary residence permit holders will be considered when the need arises."

* 302 Q.—SRI C. KANDASAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the preliminary and primary reliefs the Government propose to give to the persons repatriated from Ceylon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"The Government have no proposals on hand as there is no need for them at present. They are however watching the situation closely and the question of giving relief to the persons repatriated from Ceylon will be considered when the need arises."

* 303 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the State Government have received any information from the Union Government with regard to the stateless labourers who may be sent away from Ceylon to Madras; and

(b) the measures that are proposed to be taken by the State Government for their rehabilitation?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"(a) The answer to the question is in the negative. There is no question of any stateless persons being sent away from Ceylon to Madras.

"(b) In view of the answer to clause (a), this question does not arise."

* 304 Q.—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the State Government were consulted by the Government of India prior to their recent negotiations with the Government of Ceylon regarding the Nationals of Indian origin in Ceylon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"The Government of India have been keeping the State Government regularly informed of developments regarding people of Indian origin

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resident in Ceylon, both before and after the discussions which took place in Delhi during October last. The Government of India have also consulted the State Government from time to time and were aware of the State Government's views in regard to people of Indian origin in Ceylon."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" In view of the fact that alarming figures are given about the number of persons likely to be affected by this agreement, have the Government considered in detail the question as to how many are likely to be affected by this agreement, that is, how many are likely to be sent to this State and how they propose to meet such a situation?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We need not be alarmed by mere figures published in the newspapers. When the occasion comes, proper and suitable action will be taken."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" The Hon. the Minister has stated that the number of repatriates is very small and that their problem is not a big one. As compared with the large population of this State, the number may be very small but does he know that the repatriates in the Nattika firka present a huge problem and that out of every two families, one needs immediate help and relief? Will the Government afford the necessary relief to these families?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are considering questions as and when they arise. At present, repatriation is not on a very large scale and we are hoping that it will not be on a very large scale in future. We are also anxious that whatever measure that we take here should not be an inducement to people in Ceylon to leave that place and come away to India."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" ஸார், சிலோனிலிருந்து எத்தனை பேர்கள் திருப்பி அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதற்கு சர்க்காரிடம் கணக்கு இருக்கிறதா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If the hon. Member wants, he may put a separate question. I shall give the figures."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" ஸார், அதிகமான பேர்கள் இன்னும் திரும்பி வரவில்லை என்று பதில் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. அப்படியானால் அதிகமான பேர்கள் என்பது எந்த எண்ணிக்கையைக் குறிக்கிறது என்பதையும் அதிகமான பேர்கள் இல்லை என்பது எந்த எண்ணிக்கையைக் குறிக்கிறது என்பதையும் அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The present number is in no way considerable. It is only a few hundreds."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Will the Government give same idea about the economic status of these repatriates and also will they tell us whether single individuals or families are affected?"

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The repatriates, whether they are single or families, are comparatively well-off and even after we enquired whether they needed any help, they said, many of them, that they did not want any help from us just now."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" May I know whether the Government have got any statistics to show the total number of such repatriates including those who are likely to return under this agreement? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have figures in respect of persons who have already returned. We do not expect any large number to return in future. This is merely an expectation and everything depends on how the agreement works."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" சிலோன் இந்தியர்களை வெளியேற்றும் பிரச்னையில் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்துடன் ஏதாவது பேச்சு வார்த்தை நடந்ததா? அப்படி ஏதாவது பேச்சு வார்த்தைகள் நடந்திருந்தால் அதில் சென்னை அரசாங்க மந்திரிகளில் யாராவது கலந்துகொண்டு தங்களுடைய ஆலோசனையை தெரிவித்ததுண்டா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that we have been consulted and are kept informed of all that is happening in Ceylon."

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" ஸார், சிலோனிலிருந்து இங்கு குடியேறி வரும் இந்தியர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்க கஷ்டம் இல்லை என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் லட்சத் தீவுகளில் அதிகப்படியான ஜனங்கள் இல்லை என்றும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் அந்த ஜனங்களை அந்த லட்சத் தீவுகளில் குடியேற்றுவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய முடியுமா ? அப்படி ஏற்பாடு செய்வதற்கு அந்த லட்சத் தீவுகளில் சர்வே நடத்த முன்வருவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think it is better the hon. Member puts his question in Malayalam and has it translated into English by some other Member instead of putting questions in Tamil and putting everybody into difficulty." (Laughter.)

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" ஸார், எந்த அடிப்படையில் எந்த முறையில் இலங்கை சர்க்கார் இந்தியர்களை இந்தியாவுக்கு அனுப்புகிறார்கள் என்பதை அறிய விரும்புவதோடு இலங்கைக்கும் நமக்கும் ஒரு சுமுகமான சூழ்நிலையை, உறவை உண்டாக்க நமது சட்ட சபை மெம்பர்களைக் கொண்ட ஒரு நல்லெண்ணத் தூது கோஷ்டியை இலங்கைக்கு அனுப்பி வைக்க இந்த சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா என்பதையும் அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If a deputation of Members of this Assembly could solve the problem, certainly that would have been the first step taken by this Government. But it is not so simple as that. That is why we are facing all these difficulties."

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Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" ஸார், சிலோனிலிருந்து மலையாளத்திற்கு வந்து குடியேறியிருக்கக்கூடியவர்களில் பெருவாரியானவர்கள் சிலோனில் மரமேறும் தொழிலாளர்களாக இருந்தார்கள் என்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா ? அவர்கள் நல்ல அந்தஸ்தில் இருந்தார்கள் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களின் கருத்தா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not concede that toddy tappers have returned in very large numbers. As far as persons who have come back are concerned, they do not need any help at the present time. When the need arises, we shall certainly look into it."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Have these repatriates or refugees sought any help from the Government of their own accord and if so, may I know the nature of such help sought? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have said that nobody has so far sought any help from the Government."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" How do the Government dispose of persons who arrive here as destitutes from Ceylon? Are they fed properly and are they provided any conveyance to reach their homes here? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" They are not destitutes, as I have already stated. They need no help from the Government at present."

Sri K. R. NALLASIVAM :—" ஸார், சிலோனிலிருந்து வெளியேற்றப்படும் தொழிலாளர்களை அந்தமான் தீவுகளில் குடியேற்றுவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We cannot compulsorily send any person to the Andamans unless we revive the old practice of sending persons convicted and sentenced to transportation for life to Andamans. But when the problem arises, it will be considered."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" There is a proverb which says that it is indiscreet to choose the site of the well when the house is burning. Will the Government see that precautionary measures are taken so that when the catastrophe occurs, they may come to the help of these people immediately rather than wait indefinitely? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am very thankful to the hon. Member for the proverb that he has quoted, but unfortunately it does not apply here. What we are trying to do at present is to prevent the catastrophe so that many may not come back from Ceylon and create further problems here."

Sri T. ANANTA PAI :—" While the Government should be prepared to meet any contingency, should they not make it clear that they do not hold out any inducement for people in Ceylon to come to this State? "

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Hon. Members want that we should provide an inducement to them to come back by the steps we are taking here. We are preventing that catastrophe but the hon. Member Mr. Kurup wants that we should give them scope for returning to India."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, on a point of order. The Hon. the Minister was saying that so far as the repatriates from Ceylon to Malabar were concerned, they did not want any help. May I know from him with what statistics as the basis and on what authority he said so? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" How is it a point of order? "

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" There were representations made to the Government both by the Members of Legislature and also other representatives of the people with regard to the necessity for providing relief to these people. The Hon. the Minister says that there is no necessity for relief and none wants relief."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" How can this be raised as a point of order? It can only be a supplementary."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" It is misleading the whole House and you must help us, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" How can I help if the Hon. Minister misleads the hon. Member? " (Laughter.)

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are we not entitled to get correct answers? This is misrepresentation and you must come to our rescue."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have stated the correct facts in my possession. The relief is not for the M.L.As. but people who have come from Ceylon. I have categorically stated that we have not received any representation from them for any immediate help."

Improvements made to slums by the City Improvement Trust.

11–30 a.m. * 305 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the interest the City Improvement Trust has taken so far for the benefit of the poor and the Harijans?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" One of the primary objects of the Madras City Improvement Trust is to improve the slums in the City and provide houses for the homeless poor including Harijans, so far as its finances permit.

During 1950–51, the slum known as ' Sankthiganapathipuram ' in Mambalam South and a part of Cox Square (formerly known as Cox-Cheri) were cleared and improved. By this improvement about 100 families were rehabilitated. In 1951–52 about 1,000 grounds in Mandavalipakkam were cleared